

CONGRESS.

In the Senate yesterday, the bill authorizing the President to pay over certain moneys to Hiram Powers, was called up by Mr. Pearce, and passed.

Mr. Chandler moved to take up the bill to deposit the channel over the St. Clair's flats; taken up.

Mr. Bright reported, from the Committee on Public Buildings, that the new Senate chamber could be got ready for occupancy by the 1st of January next. The report recommends that the Superintendent of the Capitol Extension, be instructed to have the new Senate chamber in readiness for their occupancy by the time specified, and that the Vice-President be authorized to appoint a committee of three to make the necessary arrangements; laid over.

A resolution was adopted calling on the President for correspondence with the Mexican Government.

The Pacific railroad bill was taken up, and Mr. Ward addressed the Senate in favor of a southern route.

In the House of Representatives, Mr. Kellogg asked leave to introduce a resolution requiring a bill to be reported providing that the people of the Territories shall elect all their local officers, pay the expenses of their local government, and enjoy the immunities generally which appertain to citizens of foreign States. Also, that the Territories shall be admitted as States whenever their population is sufficient to entitle them to one Representative; leave not granted.

Mr. Phelps reported the annual consular and diplomatic and army appropriation bills. Mr. Carewagh asked leave to introduce a bill for the organization of a territorial government for Dacotah and for other purposes; leave not granted.

Mr. Phelps moved to set apart a half hour each day for the reception of bills for reference; not agreed to.

The bill for pensioning the soldiers of the war of 1812, and Indian wars of that period was taken up.

Messrs Atkins and Kunkel advocated it. Mr. Sandidge opposed the bill, on the ground of cost.

Mr. Whiteley wished to amend it, so as to exclude the soldiers of those States, the Legislatures of which refused to place their militia under the charge of the President, or refused to allow their employment without the limits of their own States.

Mr. Davidson was in favor of the bill, but opposed Mr. Whiteley's amendment which was rejected.

Mr. Sherman offered an amendment providing that the pension shall be enjoyed only by soldiers of the regular army, and that the pay shall not exceed the rate paid to a private soldier. He was in favor of the pension system, but wished to make no discrimination.

Mr. Giddings opposed the amendment as unfair, and furnished an apt illustration of its unfairness.

Mr. Gartrell was also in favor of placing the officers and soldiers on an equal footing—granting them the same amount of pay—but was not in favor of discriminating as to the length of the service.

Mr. Millson opposed the bill.

The Washington Star of yesterday afternoon says:—"We learn that the President has transmitted to the Senate the nomination of Mr. C. P. Sengstack, of this city, to be the Warden of the District of Columbia Penitentiary."

COMMERCIAL.

The Markets.
BALTIMORE, Dec. 21.—Flour is very dull and we have no sales to report. Prices are therefore nominally the same as yesterday. Wheat is firm; white 135@140c; red 125c. Corn is firm; white 65@66c; yellow 66@68c. Provisions are unchanged. Lard is in good demand at 11@11 1/2 c. for Western. Whiskey is steady at 25@26c.

NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—Flour is dull; State 4.25@4.50, Ohio 4.00@4.25; Southern 3.75@4.00. Wheat is quiet; red nominally 120c; white 135c. Corn is quiet; but mixed 77c. Pork is buoyant; old mess 17.50@18.00; new 18.00@18.50; prime 18.50@19.00. Lard is heavy at 11@11 1/2 c. Whiskey is at 25c. Stocks are dull and lower. Va. 6 1/2 @7; Mo. 6 1/2 @7.

NEW YORK MONEY MARKET.—The receipts from customs on Monday amounted to \$57,000. The total in the Subtreasury was \$5,235,916. The exchanges at the Bank clearing-house, were \$4,171,634.68, and the balances to \$844,352.

The total exports of the seven principal staples for the year to December 9th, amounted to \$20,969,919, a decrease of \$4,596,567 as compared with the same period of last year.

The number of bales shipped eastward from Bristol, over the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad, since the 1st of December, has been 2,900 bales. The total for the season has been about 7,900, amounting to 10,000 to the same time last year. The shipments of the season are about over, and the figures indicate a decided short crop from that section.

Within last week there have been shipped from Boston and New York to New Orleans and Mobile, between fifty and sixty thousand bushels of oats. Oats are selling at St. Louis at 75 cents, at New Orleans 70, at Mobile 75, and at Boston at 50@55.

FESTIVAL AT SAREPTA HALL.
THE LADIES OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH inform their friends that they will commence a **FESTIVAL AT SAREPTA HALL**, for the benefit of the Church, on Monday Evening next, 26th inst., to continue throughout the week. Every effort will be made to enable visitors to pass their time in an agreeable manner. OYSTERS, ICE CREAM, and other refreshments will be served upon each occasion. The friends of the Church and the Ladies are invited to attend.

Admission 10 cents—Season Tickets at a moderate price—to be had of the Ladies and at the Door.

FOR CONGRESS.—We are authorized to announce HENRY SHACKLEFORD, esq., as a candidate to represent the Seventh Congressional District, in the next Congress.

WE are authorized to announce Dr. J. B. Grayson, a candidate to represent the District of Stafford, King George, and Prince William, in the Senate of Virginia, subject to the ratification of a District Convention.

NEW VOLUME OF PRESCOTT.—A History of the Reign of Philip the Second, King of Spain, by William H. Prescott, volume third, price \$2.25. Just published, and for sale by ROBT. BELL.

CLOVER SEED.—New crop Clover and Timothy Seed, of approved quality, in store, and for sale by DANIEL F. HOOE.

50 BOXES ADAMANTINE CANDLES. 10 barrels C. Yellow Sugar, 1,000 pounds Buckwheat, received this day and for sale by J. E. DOUGLASS.

NEW ORLEANS SUGAR.—20 hds. new crop New Orleans Sugar, in store, and for sale by [dec 16-2w] T. A. BREWIS & CO.

CRANBERRIES.—Cranberries, in store, and for sale by [nov 26] JOHN A. DIXON.

By Yesterday Evening's Mail.

WHIG AND AMERICAN MEETING IN RICHMOND. The Whigs say:—"Notwithstanding the rain was pouring down last night we had one of the most spirited and glorious Whig rallies that we have ever seen in Richmond. The African Church was nearly full, and the best possible spirit prevailed. Indeed, the spirit of '40, '44 and '48 is again awake among the noble and gallant Whigs of Richmond."

R. T. Daniel, Esq., was called to the Chair, ten Vice Presidents named, and R. R. Gwary appointed Secretary. Mr. D. made a glorious speech—one that stirred and animated every Whig heart. So did L. W. Tazewell, and A. Judson Crane. A State Convention was recommended to be held in Richmond, on the 10th of February, and one hundred and fifty delegates appointed to represent Richmond. The meeting was also addressed by Mr. Ridgway.

ANOTHER MEETING.—A meeting of the Whig party of Dinwiddie County was held at the Court House of that County, on the 20th inst., when delegates were appointed to a Convention to be held for the purpose of nominating Opposition Candidates for the office of Governor, Lieutenant Governor and Attorney General of Virginia. The meeting expressed a preference for Richmond, as the place of holding the Convention.

The examination of Col. George W. Todd, arrested in Richmond on Saturday last for an alleged highway robbery perpetrated on the 11th, took place on Monday, before the Mayor of that city, and resulted in his acquittal.

ALMANAC.

1858	SUN	MOON'S PHASES.
DECEMBER, 1858.	rise sets.	
22 Wednesday	7 18 44	D. 8 H. M.
23 Thursday	7 18 42	Last qtr. 27 0 28
24 Friday	7 18 42	First qtr. 4 12 13
25 Saturday	7 18 42	Full moon 12 2 13
26 Sunday	7 18 42	Full moon 12 2 13
27 Monday	7 17 43	Full moon 12 2 13
28 Tuesday	7 17 43	Full moon 12 2 13

MARINE LIST.

PORT OF ALEXANDRIA—DECEMBER 21.

ARRIVED.

Sch. Charles Moore, Ingersoll, Bridgeport.

Sch. James H. Deputie, Waitman, New York.

Sch. Fowle & Co.

Sch. Olivia, Courtney, Wycomico, corn and wheat to Robinson & Payne.

Sch. Georgiana, Tallant, Wycomico, corn to Robinson & Payne.

Sch. Dove, Flamingham, Cone River, corn to Robinson & Payne.

Sch. Thomas R. Skinner, Perry, Boyd's Hole, wheat to Robinson & Payne.

Sch. Golden Eagle, Helsey, Somerset, by D. A. Lowe.

MEMORANDA.

At St. Thomas, 1st inst., barque Parthian, Moore, from Richmond, for Joe Janeiro, arrived, 29th November, dismasted, as before reported, but not damaged, passengers and crew all well.

At Delaware Breakwater, 14th, schrs. Iram Smith, McGivern, and M. C. Durie, Hall, from this port, for Fall River; Allen Middleton, Jr., Sipple, from do. for Somerset, all detained by head wind and fog.

Sch. S. G. King, Andrews, for this port, el'd at Philadelphia, 18th inst.

THE MOUNT VERNON PAPERS, by the Hon. Edward Everett, is out in the New York Ledger of this week, and for sale at G. O. SINGER'S, 75, Prince street, opposite the Gazette Building.

Now is the time to subscribe. Call early and secure the first number—delivered to any part of the city, or sent by mail to subscribers in the country.

All the Magazines for January on hand, together with all the Papers and Periodicals for the Holidays.

A full supply of the Paper Dolls and Paper Furniture; also, Houses made in a strong and handsome manner, to put the Furniture and Babies in, a delightful and pleasing present for children.

A splendid assortment of Holiday Books, suitable for all ages, sizes and descriptions of persons. Now is the time to buy.

TAKE NOTICE.—For the information of that portion of the community who desire to partake of the luxuries of the season, the Editor of the Gazette informs his friends that his Eating Saloon has been placed in complete order for the reception of themselves, ladies, and daughters, where they will receive that attention from the Proprietor which cannot but commend him to the notice of all who honor him with their patronage.

J. BOULANGER, G street, between 17th and 18th, Washington, Dec. 21—6037

SEASONABLE.—Extract Lemon, Pine Apple, Strawberry, Vanilla, Nutmeg and Spice, Cloves, Cinnamon, Mace, and Sassafras, whole and broken, and Irish Moss; Heck's Farina; Bermuda Arrow; Extract Lemon and Cinnamon; Wines for Cooking, and pure Brandy, for sale by

PEEL, STEVENS & CO., Corner of King and Alfred streets.

STEWART'S COUGH CANDY, a doubtless the best Cough Candy ever made; it is composed of the extracts of Iceland Moss, Liverwort, Wild Cherry, Confrey Root, &c. It will be found a good remedy for Coughs, Colds, Hoarseness, Croup, Whooping Cough, and Croup Consumption; put up in packages, 6 and 12 cts. each.

H. COOK & CO., Sarepta Hall.

BASE OF THE OLD DOMINION, ALEXANDRIA, Dec. 22, 1858.

ON SATURDAY, the 25th inst., (Christmas day) this Bank will be closed. Notes maturing at that time are required to be attended to on the 24th inst. By order

dec 22—3t JAS. MCKENZIE, Cashier.

FAMILY AND EXTRA FLOUR, of choice brands, in barrels and bags, constantly on hand, and for sale by

dec 22 JOHN A. DIXON.

TWO COOKS AND TWO WASHERWOMEN wanted immediately. Apply to

dec 22—4t MRS. M. V. MADDOX.

JUST RECEIVED from New York, a large consignment of LADIES' FURS, and will be sold extremely low, such as Fitch, Stone Martin, Mink, and Canada Sable. Call and examine.

dec 13 JOHN T. EVANS.

FRESH ROLL BUTTER—250 lbs. Roll Butter, fresh and new, received this day, and for sale by

dec 18 GARRET HULST, 147 King street.

TAR—60 bbls. Tar, in prime order, landing from Sch. City of New York, by Plymouth, N. C. for sale by

dec 18 J. WHAT & CO.

10 BARRELS TANNERS' AND SHOE OIL, for sale by

dec 16 KINCHLOE & BRUN.

1200 LBS. FRESH GOSHEN GLADES and ROLL BUTTER, received and for sale by

dec 16 DAVY & HARMON.

1800 LBS. PRIME BUCKWHEAT FLOUR, received and for sale by

dec 16 DAVY & HARMON.

60 BARRELS GAMBRILL'S FAMILY FLOUR, this day received, and for sale by

dec 18 ROBINSON & PAYNE.

LOCAL ITEMS.

THE CANAL—CLOSE OF NAVIGATION.—The Cumberland Civilian of yesterday says:—"Navigation on the Chesapeake & Ohio Canal has closed for the season. The shippers of coal ceased forwarding on Saturday; and what boats are now down the line of the canal, will be tied up on their return to Cumberland. We understand that the water is to be let off the Cumberland Division on the first of January."

During the year, the shipments of coal by canal reached 271,800 tons; which, taking all things into consideration, is much better than was expected. The American, Border, Frisborg and Allegany Coal Companies are now effecting arrangements to ship increased quantities of coal next season.

ALEXANDRIA RIFLEMEN.—An election for officers of the Alexandria Riflemen, was held at the Armory, on Monday night, superintended by Captain S. H. Devaughn, of the Mount Vernon Guards. Lieutenant MORTON MARVE was unanimously elected Captain; A. J. Humphries, 1st Lieutenant; Henry Hampton, 2nd do.; J. M. Hart, 3rd do.; and H. S. Wallace, 4th do. P. B. Hooe was chosen Quartermaster, and R. F. Knox, Esq.; W. T. Cluverius, O. S.; E. B. Addison, 2nd Sergeant; J. M. Burke, 3rd do., and Thomas Francis, 4th do. The company are in a flourishing condition, and we are happy to hear that their numbers are increasing.

Officer Warder and Messrs. Moore and Jefferson of the Watch, arrested three men on Monday night last, on the complaint of a citizen of Fairfax, for stealing turkeys and chickens from his market wagon. They were examined before Justice Summers, yesterday, and no positive proof being produced, they were discharged.

Patrick Carrik, arrested on Sunday, as stated in yesterday's Gazette, was, after examination, discharged.

BENEVOLENT.—On Thursday the 9th inst., the Ladies of the Benevolent Society of St. Paul's Church, distributed to the poor children at their Sunday School, 117 garments, and on the following Thursday 82, making a total of 199 neat and substantial garments.

EXAMINATION AND CONCERT.—The examination of the pupils of Westworth Seminary, takes place at the Lyceum Hall this morning. At night a concert will be given by the pupils for the benefit of the Orphan Asylum.

Fog.—Another heavy fog prevailed on the river yesterday, which impeded navigation very much.

THE HUNTER CHAPEL AFFAIR.—Mr. Angus, builder in Washington, gives an explanation of the late affair in Alexandria County, concerning what is called the Hunter Chapel, he says:—"Concerning the taking out of the doors and windows, I did it by request of the building committee, they being present when I arrived, and told me that they wished me to do as the committee wished on the premises, and as far as the said committee have had it in their power, they have acted honorably towards me; they did not wish the arbitration, nor the work measured, for they felt satisfied that I had a fair contract. In conclusion, I will state that I am still willing to abide the decision of any competent builder either in this city or Alexandria, as regards the price I have charged for the erection of the building, but I see no reason why I should not be remunerated for my expense in the erection of this church, because of the disagreement of the members of the congregation, to which, as I have before stated, I was not a party."

WHOLESALE FUGITIVISM.—Yesterday morning, several hours before day, twelve white and ten colored prisoners in the Washington city workhouse, near the Anacostia, broke from their confinement in one of the four buildings of the establishment. This they did, we presume, in view of the brief period which will elapse before the new building which will replace the one now being built will be occupied, and from which they very justly felt their escape would be not so easy.

—Natl. Int.

The sale at Newton's Hotel is still in progress, and bargains are to be had.

CONCERT AND EXHIBITION.

THE YOUNG LADIES ATTACHED TO WENTWORTH SEMINARY.—A. E. Bassett, Principal, will give their ANNUAL CONCERT, on Wednesday evening, December 22d, at LYCEUM HALL, commencing at 7 o'clock. The MESSRS. DARRIS, of Washington, have kindly consented to assist. This concert will be given for the benefit of the Orphan Asylum.

Admission Twenty-five cents.

The Examination of the Pupils of the above Institution will take place at the Lyceum on the morning of the same, commencing at 10 A. M., and will be public.

dec 17—6037

ANOTHER ARRIVAL.—Now receiving per Schrs. Hamilton, Exchange, and Mott Bedford, from New York, the following GOODS: 30 bbls. New Crop N. O. Mus., and Porto Rico Sugars, part choice

75 bbls. Crushed, Granulated, and Pulverized Sugars

50 bbls. A. B. C. Coffee Sugars

30 bbls. P. R. and Mus. Molasses

50 bbls. Choice Golden Syrup

New Crop N. O. Molasses

45 bags Rio Coffee, part choice

40 bbls. Java and Laguyra Coffee

175 boxes Adam. Mould and Tallow Candles

300 boxes Ashton Salt; 40 boxes prime Eastern Cheese; 15 boxes Macaroni; 40 chests Green and Black Teas, part choice; 20 lbs. Cider Vinegar; 300 gross Shanghai and Sulphur Matches; 250 boxes Raisins; 25 boxes Assorted Candy; 15 cases Carb Soda; 75 cases Paints; 25 cases Cedar Tubs; 15 cases Rice; 50 Fails; 30 cases Soda; 25 cases Glass; 25 bales Wrapping Twine; 15 do. Candle Wick; 1000 sacks Sugar; 200 lbs. Bar Lead; 1000 sacks Dairy Salt, to which we invite the attention of the trade.

GRAY, MILLER & CO., dec 18

THE Commissioned Officers of the 17th Regiment, 6th Brigade, 2d Division, of Virginia Militia, will meet at the Court House, on Thursday, the 23d day of December, 1858, at 10 o'clock, for the purpose of electing a Colonel, Lieutenant Colonel, First and Second Major. It is important that there should be a full attendance. By order

ROBERT BROCKTET, Commis.

EDWARD B. FOWELL, 1st Lieut.

WM. B. PRICE, 3d Lieut.

dec 20—41t [Sent]

NEGROES FOR HIRE—FIVE WOMEN AND GIRLS, and TWO BOYS. Among the women are Cooks and House-Servants. Apply, personally, to the undersigned on Monday and Tuesday, the 27th and 28th of December, at Mount Vernon, where the negroes can be seen and examined.

JOHN A. WASHINGTON, Mount Vernon, Dec. 21—41w

WRAPPING PAPER.—I have now on hand 1800 reams of Wrapping Paper of the various sizes, to which the attention of buyers is invited—all of which will be sold at very low prices.

ROBERT BELL, 61 King street, nov 27



BY MAGNETIC TELEGRAPH.

MONTRE, Dec. 19.—It is stated here on the best authority that the schr. Susan sailed for Nicaragua with the firm determination on the part of the leaders of the expedition, not to allow the British or any other foreign power to stop them without resisting till blood shall be drawn, their purpose being to test the disputed points of international law, or to compel England to make an early exposure of the grounds of her assumed pretence of the San Juan river, and adjacent territory. It is thought probable, however, that they will not fall in with any vessel of war whatever.

NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—The New York papers state that gold currents were received over the Atlantic cable on Saturday, and that the word HENLEY was distinguished at about the hour when, according to advices from the Arabia, Henley's apparatus was to be tried.

BOARD OF ALDERMEN.

At a meeting of the Board of Aldermen, held December 20th, 1858, there were present—

Law. B. Taylor, esq., President.

Messrs. Armstrong, Smith, Fowle, Bryan, Reid, and Lambert.

Upon motion of Mr. Fowle, the resolution which was laid on the table at the last meeting of the Board, relating to the appointment of a committee to superintend the improvement contemplated in the lease to the American Coal Company, was taken up—whereupon, Mr. Fowle offered the following substitute, which was passed by the Board, viz:

Resolved, That a committee of two members of each branch of the City Council be appointed, to superintend the improvement contemplated in the lease to the American Coal Company, with full powers to make all necessary contracts and purchases connected therewith.

Notice was received from the Common Council of their non-concurrence in the above resolution, and the adoption of the following substitute, viz:

Resolved, That Thomas Smith, John T. Armstrong, A. W. Eastlack, and James W. N. be, and are hereby appointed a committee, to superintend the improvement contemplated in the lease to the American Coal Company, with power to make all necessary contracts and purchases connected therewith.

The Board refused to concur in the substitute, and on motion a Committee of Conference was appointed by the President, consisting of Messrs. Bryan and Lambert.

The Committee of Conference reported back the substitute received from the Common Council, which report was received, and the said substitute adopted by the Board.

Upon motion of Mr. Armstrong, (the rule being suspended for the purpose) the vote upon the resolution, relating to the appointment of a committee, to superintend the improvement contemplated in the lease to the American Coal Company, was reconsidered, and the subject laid on the table until the next regular meeting of the Board.

The Board then adjourned.

S. J. MCCORMICK, Clerk.

IN COMMON COUNCIL.

At a meeting of the Common Council of Alexandria, held on the 20th of December, 1858, there were present—

Mr. McCormick, President, pro tem.

Messrs. Markell, Kinzer, George H. Smart, Alexander, Eastlack, Halliwell, Smith, James, Dorsey, Summers, Nells, Richards, and Smart.

The following resolution was received from the Board of Aldermen, viz:

Resolved, That a Committee of two members of each branch of the City Council, be appointed to superintend the improvement contemplated in the lease to the American Coal Company, with full power to make all necessary contracts and purchases connected therewith.

Mr. Kinzer moved the following as a substitute for this resolution, which motion was carried, viz:

Resolved, That Thomas Smith, John T. Armstrong, A. W. Eastlack, and James W. N. be, and are hereby appointed a committee, to superintend the improvement contemplated in the lease to the American Coal Company, with power to make all necessary contracts and purchases connected therewith.

Notice was subsequently received from the Board of Aldermen of their refusal to concur in the above substitute, and asking the appointment of a Committee of Conference upon the subject, which was granted, and Messrs. Kinzer and Smith appointed the Committee on the part of this Board.

The Committee retired, and soon after returned, and reported that they had agreed that the Board of Aldermen should reconsider their action refusing to concur in the substitute of this Board, and pass the same.

Notice was received from the Board of Aldermen that they had reconsidered and passed the substitute.

The Council then adjourned.

G. A. TAYLOR, C. C.

REVOLVING DICE BOXES.

Another of those miserable little affairs, so convenient and simple, for Backgammon players and others. Also, a great variety of other useful articles suitable for Holiday presents.

It is true, I cannot boast of a "Palace" of such things, but I will merely say to those in want of such things, or any thing else, to try at home first, before they take up the line of match and flag raised in behalf of their side of Jordan.

dec 20 JOHN H. PARROTT.

FOR THE HOLIDAYS.—Work Boxes, Writings, Cards, Parquet, Card Cases, Coral Necklaces, Gents' Dressing Cases, China Vases, Gift Cups and Saucers, Caskets, Porte Monies, Fine Hair Brushes, Backgammon Boards, Dominoes, Dice, Chess and Checker Men, Ivory Tablets, Games, Battledores, &c., received and for sale at

dec 21 H. B. WHITTINGTON'S, No. 37, King street.